



## College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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### PUBLIC NOTIFICATION – September 27, 2022

## Registrant-2022-a

### British Columbia

1. **Nature of action:** The Inquiry Committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (the College) conducted an investigation regarding the practice of a registrant, pursuant to section 33(4) of the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996, c.183.

The Inquiry Committee concluded the matter pursuant to section 36(1) of the *Health Professions Act*.

2. **Effective date:** September 9, 2022
3. **Admission and acknowledgements:** A registrant has made the following admission:
  - a. That they failed to maintain professional boundaries with a patient in violation of the College's practice standards, *Non-sexual Boundary Violations* and *Conflict of Interest*.
4. **Disposition:** The Inquiry Committee concluded that the following disposition was appropriate:
  - a. Undertakings restricting the registrant's scope of practice; and
  - b. A non-nominal published reprimand.
5. **Rationale:** The Inquiry Committee acknowledged the serious nature of the registrant's conduct, their admission of same and steps taken to address the conduct.

In considering an appropriate disposition of this matter, the Inquiry Committee noted various factors including, but not limited to, the nature and gravity of the admitted conduct, the need to promote deterrence and protect the public, the need to maintain the public's confidence in the integrity of the medical profession, the degree to which the registrant's conduct was regarded as being outside the range of permitted conduct and the extent to which they pose a risk of engaging in misconduct in the future, and the presence of any mitigating circumstances.

The Inquiry Committee noted the registrant's mitigating circumstances and considered their risk of engaging in similar conduct in the future to be low, particularly given their limited scope of practice. The Inquiry Committee expressed that specific deterrence is met with undertakings restricting the registrant's scope of practice and that general deterrence would be achieved through a non-nominal published reprimand, which would ensure the delivery of critical messaging to the profession regarding the conduct in this case and meet the College's mandate to protect the public. The reprimand will remain on the registrant's record and may be considered in the event of any future complaints.

*The College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia is the licensing and regulatory body for all physicians and surgeons in the province. Governed by provincial legislation, the College's role is to protect the public by establishing, monitoring and enforcing high standards of qualification and ethical practice.*

**Inquiries:**

Communications and Public Affairs

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